MAR 0 5 2003 CA

Attorney Docket: 381AS/42640RE

PATENT

<u>IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE</u>

3-13-03

Applicant:

YASUHIRO KAMIMURA ET AL.

Serial No.:

09/779,710

Group Art Unit:

3747

Filed:

FEBRUARY 9, 2001

Examiner:

WILLIS WOLFE

Title:

AIR FLOW RATE CONTROL APPARATUS

REPLY

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Box

Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Sir:

The following is responsive to the Office Action mailed on or about December 11, 2002.

Applicants submitted a Second Supplemental Declaration on November 1, 2002, which Declaration is fully compliant with 37 CFR § 1.175 (a)(1). We note that the receipt of the Second Supplemental Declaration was not acknowledged. The rejection of Claims 1-53 under 35 U.S.C. § 251 is thus traversed, and reconsideration of that rejection is requested.

Applicants submit herewith an executed Statement under 37 CFR § 3.73(b) and a Consent of the Assignees (Corrected). The objective under 37 CFR § 1.172(a) has thus been addressed.

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Early and favorable action in this application is now earnestly solicited.

If there are any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, a telephone call to the undersigned would be appreciated since this should expedite the prosecution of the application for all concerned.

If necessary to effect a timely response, this paper should be considered as a petition for an Extension of Time sufficient to effect a timely response, and please charge any deficiency in fees or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 05-1323 (Docket #381AS/42640RE).

Respectfully submitted,

March 5, 2003

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